

THE PACIFIC
Commercial Advertiser

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If We Knew.

We know the world's beauties
Waiting for us down the road,
Our lips could taste the wormwood,
If our backs could feel the load;
Would we waste the day in wishing
For a time that never can be?
Would we wait in such impatience?
For our ships to come from sea?

If we knew the hard fingers
Pressing against the window-pane,
Would he still and cold to-morrow,
As we sit here in the gloom;
Would the bright scenes of our darling
Catch the frown upon our brow,
Would the print of rose fingers
Vex us then as they do now?

Ah, those little love-soft fingers,
How they pull our memories back
To the hard words and actions
Strewing along our backward track?
How these little hands remind us,
As in snowy grace they lie,
Not to scatter them, but roses,
For our rousing thoughts to die.

—We know we never prize the rose,
Till we see it; and the bird has flown;
Strange that we should sight the violet
Till the lovely flowers are gone;

Stamp that summer skies and sunshine
Never seem half so fair

As when winter's snowy pinches
Shake their white down in the air?

Lips from which the seal of silence
None but God can tell away,

Never blossomed in such beauty
And such words that freight our memory

With their beautiful perfume,
Come to us in softer accents,

Through the portals of the tomb.

Let us gather up the sunshine,
Lip all around our path;

Let us keep the wheat and roses,
Casting out the thorns and chaff;

Let us find our sweetest comfort

In the blessings of to-day

With a patient hand removing

All the briars from our way.

—Seated.

Miscellaneous Foreign Items.

A Philadelphian has taken out a patent for the manufacture of wooden shirt boxes, the material being the same as that now used in papering rooms.

A writer in the *Journal de Paris* estimates the sum lost and won at cards in the Paris clubs at 1,000,000 francs a day. The cards alone cost 8,000 francs per night.

Charles Dickens, for his farewell readings (which are, it is said, to extend over the United Kingdom to one hundred nights), is to receive £20,000 from Mr. Chapman.

The Rhode Islanders are lamenting over the decrease of their cherished claims, which never were known to be so small as now. A Rhode Islander without claims, and a Nantucket skipper without beans, are evidences of destitution every right-thinking man would regret.

Over 30,000 persons attended the balls held in New York during the winter. It is estimated that it cost the aforesaid 30,000 persons the magnificent sum of \$160,000 for the necessary tickets, supper, carriage hire and other trifling but delightful incidental expenses.

Three-fourths of an acre of land in Georgia (planted with cotton) has yielded, in a year, nearly \$600 in rent. The rent of about \$800 an acre, the round crop, of course, carefully cultivated and tended. What a future looks up for the Southern people, if they will only be wise and industrious in the use of their splendid advantages which nature has given them.

The New-York.—Thirty thousand dollars were appropriated by the last Legislature to the building of a newsboy's lodging house in New York, provided \$30,000 more should be raised by private subscription. The money has been subscribed, and now, with some aid, the society are seeking a suitable building.

Present to Gen. Sherman.—Some of General Sherman's friends at New York have recently been quietly at work, and have succeeded in raising about \$100,000 for a testimonial to the General. About half of this sum was raised in New York, at Washington, and the balance will be ultimately disposed of. Gen. Sherman deserves well of his loyal countrymen, and this testimonial will be quite a handsome addition to his present fortune and income.

The "ALARMES" is another Shape.—The House Naval Committee reported a bill to pay to Commodore Winslow and the officers and crew of the war steamer *Kearsarge* the sum of \$190,000 as prize money, that sum being the estimated value of the rebel pirate *Alabama*, which was destroyed by the *Kearsarge*. An amendment was adopted providing that no part of the money should be paid to an associate of the *Alabama*, and the bill was passed.

Non Descript Now.—All the Southern journals are opposing the acquisition of Cuba, whereas before the rebellion they were fierce for it, and several times came near getting the Government into difficulty in their independent efforts for getting it. They are now, however, for opposite it now, and that it is in no way desirable; that the reason why it is not desirable is, that as slavery no longer exists, Cuba could be of no benefit to that nation. The Southerners never used to say, however, that the slaves were fit to govern slaves, but used other reasons as a necessity for so doing it. It is a little singular that these grounds are not as essential now as they were before slavery died.—*Gold Hill News*.

A DANGEROUS MISTAKE.—The *Norfolk Journal* has disclosed to its digest that the "Southern" song of "Dixie" not only originated in the North, but was first written for and used by John C. Calhoun, the South Carolina statesman, who, while writing his stand in Dixie's land" is a runaway slave, expressing his intention of returning to the South, seize his master's plantation, and "live and die in Dixie." Stover was led to metaphorically as "Johnnie's pig that lived in clover" as it did in Dixie.

The original song was composed of music Abolitionist gatherings, before the war, and edition after edition was called for. The very term "Dixie" was original with the Abolitionist author, and never in use before his application of it.

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